the country and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

At present the indigenous production of LPG is inadequate to meet domestic requirements. The domestic LPG production in 2007-08 was 8829 TMT. The shortfall in availability is met through imports.

OMCs have also reported that domestic LPG production is expected to increase to 12.8 million metric tonnes by the end of XIth Five-year Plan with the completion of their various on-going upgradation and expansion projects in their existing refineries as well as commissioning of new refineries.

Selling of old oil fields

3811. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he agrees with reforms option as projected in Economic Survery 2007-08 regarding selling of old oil fields to private sector for application of improved/enhanced Oil Recovery Techniques;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) if not, whether the same has been informed to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) There is no proposal with the Government to sell old oil fields to private sector companies for application of Improved/Enhanced Oil Recovery Techniques.

Oil and gas from Turkmenistan

3812. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Turkmenistan recently signed a MoU cooperation in the oil and gas sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Turkmenistan will provide gas and oil to India on some conditional basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) to what extent the present position of gas and oil will improve as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Ministry of Oil/Gas Industry and Mineral Resources of Turkmenistan was signed in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on 5th April, 2008, during the visit of Uprashtrapatiji to Turkmenistan. The objective of the MoU is to establish an institutional relationship to develop bilateral cooperation in the field of oil and gas.

(c) to (e) India is pursuing import of natural gas from Turkmenistan through the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) Gas Pipeline Project. TAPI pipeline is

projected to supply 90 MMSCMD of gas. Gas utilization by Afghanistan will be about to 5.0 MMSCMD during 1st/2nd year and 14 MMSCMD from the third year onward, with remaining quantity of gas propose to be equally shared by India and Pakistan on successful completion of the project. The gas is expected to flow to India from Turkmenistan in the year 2014.

Indigeneous production of oil and gas

3813. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar on "Opportunities in the Oil and Gas Industry" was held at Mumbai recently;

(b) if so, the details of personalities attended the seminar and the outcome of the discussions held in the seminar;

(c) whether Government and Public Sector oil companies have agreed to take steps to enhance energy security in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the indigenous production of oil and gas in the country is not as expected; and

(f) if so, the steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), a private organization, which is not under the administrative control of this Ministry, had organized the seminar.

(c) to (f) Several steps have been taken/are in hand to accelerate hydrocarbon exploration and production activities and to bridge the demand and supply gap in the country, which include the following:

(i) Carving out more and more areas for exploration for offer under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NEPL) and Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy.

(ii) Quicker development of discovered reserves for enabling commencement of production.

(iii) Use of stimulation techniques for increasing production from existing fields.

(iv) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.

(v) Arresting decline from ageing fields.

(vi) Acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.

(vii) Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional source of energy such as biodiesel, ethanol, etc.

(viii) Extraction of gas from gas hydrates under National Gas Hydrates Programme (NGHP) by evolving suitable production technology.